Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 EB-08 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /098 W

R 051046Z AUG 78 FM USINT BAGHDAD TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6703 INFO USDOC WASHDC AMEMBASSY ATHENS AMEMBASSY LONDON

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ATHENS FOR RTDO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PEPR, PDIP, ETRD, IZ, UK SUBJECT: IRAQI-BRITISH RELATIONS

REF: BAGHDAD 1565

1. RELATIONS BETWEEN BRITAIN AND IRAQ CONTINUE COOL IN THE WAKE OF THE EXPULSION OF IRAQI DIPLOMATS AND THE UK AND GOI RECIPROCATION. WE HAVE BEEN TOLD BY ONE OF THE FEW REMAINING MEMBERS OF THE BRITISH EMBASSY STAFF THAT GOI HAS THUS FAR REFUSED TO GRANT VISAS TO NEWLY ASSIGNED DIPLOMATS AND THAT GOI WILL NO LONGER ENDORSE IRAQI PASSPORTS AS VALID FOR TRAVEL TO UK.

2. WE HAVE ALSO HEARD THAT THE MINISTER OF TRADE HAS SENT A MEMORANDUM TO ALL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES BANNING COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS WITH BRITAIN EXCEPT THOSE INVOLVING URGENTLY NEEDED GOODS. HOWEVER, IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER OR NOT IRAQ WLL ACTUALLY IMPLEMENT AN EFFECTIVE TRADE FREEZE. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CABLE AND WIRELESS (UK) HAS JUST BEEN AWARDED A MAJOR COMMUNICATIONS CONTRACT AND IT APPEARS THAT BRITISH FIRMS WILL PARTICIPATE AS USUAL IN THE OCTOBER 1-15 BAGHDAD INTERNATIONAL FAIR.
PECK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS

Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BAGHDA01841
Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D780361-0018 Format: TEL From: BAGHDAD

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Expiration:

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780893/aaaadajb.tel

Line Count: 60 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a1761d68-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION NEA

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 78 BAGHDAD 1565

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 05 may 2005 Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a

Review Media Identifier: Review Release Date: N/A Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 1824483 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: IRAQI-BRITISH RELATIONS TAGS: PEPR, PDIP, ETRD, IZ, UK

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a1761d68-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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